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1654

In the United States Patent & Trademark Office

In re Application of: Canne, L., et al.

Serial No.: 09/987,675

Filed on: November 15, 2001

For: Solid Phase Native Chemical Ligation Of

Unprotected Or N-Terminal Cysteine Protected Peptides In Aqueous Solution Examiner: Gupta, Anish

Art Unit: 1654

Atty Dkt. No.: 3504.283B

Reply

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In Response to the Official Action of June 2, 2004, issued with respect to the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the following Reply comprising Introductory Comments and Remarks.

Introductory Comments

This Reply has been formatted in attempted compliance with the revised provisions of 37 CFR 1.121. There are no requested amendments to the Claims or Specification.

No fee, other than those provided for on the accompanying Fee Transmittal Form are believed to be due in order for the timely consideration of this Reply. If, however, the Director determines that such a fee is required, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge any (Large Entity) fee required for consideration of this submission to Deposit Account 50-0548.

Remarks

I. Status

Claims 23-26 and 29-56 are presently pending.

II. The Rejection of Claims 23-26 and 29-56 Pursuant To The Judicially Created Doctrine Of Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 23-26 and 29-56 have been rejected pursuant to the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in light of claims 1-45 of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,468 and claims 27 and 29-60 of co-pending Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,655, in view of Barstow *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5, 064,940). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration.

Applicants respectfully draw the Examiner's attention to the fact that the present application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/097,094, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,326,468. As the Examiner will note, the claims of the '094 application were subjected to a three way restriction requirement in which claims to methods, kits and apparatus were determined to be directed to separate and distinct inventions. A copy of the Restriction Requirement is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elected to pursue method claims in U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/097,094, and filed the present application (directed to kits) and Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,655 (directed to apparatus). Applicants accordingly submit that a rejection pursuant to the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in light of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,468 or U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,655 is barred by 35 U.S.C. §121, and that the rejection may therefore be properly withdrawn.

III. Concluding Remarks

Having now fully responded to all outstanding rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for Allowance, and earnestly solicit early notice of such favorable action. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned with respect to any issues regarding this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date:

Liniak, Berenato & White, LLC 6550 Rock Spring Drive, Suite 240

Bethesda, MD 20817

Tel: (301) 896-0600 / Fax: (301) 896-0607

Jeffrey I. Auerbach Reg. No. 32,680

Attorney for Assignee



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Putent and Trademark Office

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Weshington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

09/097,094

06/12/98

CANNE

EXAMINER

JAMEISON, F

ART UNIT

1654

DATE MAILED:

03/04/99

COOLEY GODWARD LLP ATTN: RICHARD NEELEY FIVE PALO ALTO SQUARE 3000 EL CAMINO REAL PALO ALTO CA 94306-2155

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Office Action Summany TRADEMA

Application No. 09/097,094

Fabian A. Jameison

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Canne, et al

1654



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Responsive to communication(s) f	iled on
This action is FINAL.	
Since this application is in condition in accordance with the practice u	on for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed nder Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
is longer, from the mailing date of th	oonse to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whicheve is communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the 35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of
Disposition of Claims	
	is/are pending in the application.
	is/are withdrawn from consideration
	is/are allowed.
	17, and 28 is/are rejected.
	8-22 is/are objected to.
	are subject to restriction or election requirement.
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☐ The drawing(s) filed on ☐ The proposed drawing correct ☐ The specification is objected to ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to ☐ Acknowledgement is made of ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None ☐ received. ☐ received in Application ☐ received in this national *Certified copies not received ☐ Acknowledgement is made or	
Attachment(s)	TO 992
☐ Notice of References Cited, P	nent(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s)4
☐ Interview Summary, PTO-41:	
☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Pate	ent Drawing Review, PTO-948
Notice of Informal Patent App	plication, PTO-152
	SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES

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DETAILED ACTION

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-22, and 28, drawn to methods of assembling polypeptides, classified in class 514, subclass 12.
 - II. Claims 23-26, drawn to a kit for assembling peptides, classified in class 530, subclass 333.
 - III. Claim 27, drawn to an apparatus for assembling peptides, classified in class 422, subclass 62.
- 2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

 Inventions I and II are related by use of the same method for the assembly of polypeptides. The

 Inventions are different because polypeptides may be assembled by materially different methods
 than those disclosed in the inventions. Polypeptides may also be synthesized via solution
 phase methods.
- Inventions I and III are related in that the polypeptides may be synthesized using the apparatus of invention III. The inventions are different because polypeptides may be prepared by materially different methods such as those cited above, or by using methods disclosed by Applicant in Invention II.

The several inventions above are independent and distinct, each from the other. They have acquired a separate status in the art as a separate subject for inventive effect and require different searches. A search for each of the above is not co-extensive, particularly with regard to

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the literature search. A reference which would anticipate the invention of one group would not necessarily anticipate or make obvious any of the other groups.

Moreover, as to the question of burden of search, classification of subject matter is merely one indication of the burdensome nature of the search involved. The literature search, particularly relevant in this art, is not co-extensive and is much more important in evaluating the burden of search. Burden in examining materially different groups having materially different issues also exist.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, and because of their different divergent subject matter, election of a single group for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

- During a telephone conversation with James Bradburn on 2/10/99, a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-22 and 28. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 23-27 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.
- 4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any

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amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

- 6. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12-17 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
- 7. Claim 4 recites the limitation "solid support" in line 28. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in this claim.
- 8. In claims 7, 8 and 10, the term "peptide segments" is unclear. It is not clear to which fragment Aplicant is referring. Is it the first, second, third, etc., fragment?
- 9. In claims 12, 14 and 15, it is unclear whether the mass spectroscopic monitoring may be conducted at any step during the synthesis.
- 10. In claims 1, 13 and 28 the term "optionally" is confusing. It is perhaps best to delete the term since it would be obvious to repeat the steps b) and c) if more fragments are to be added.
- 11. Claim 3 recites the limitation "said assembled polypeptide" in line 25. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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- 12. Claims 1, 13, 16-17 and 28 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps.

 See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: method or methods of obtaining the final assembled peptide. The rejection may be overcome by including the missing essential step as recited in claim 2.
- 13. In claim 28, the phrase "... of solid phase" is indefinite. The language needs to be clarified to fully convey its intended meaning.

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 11 and 18-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Sequence Rule Compliance

This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825 for the reason(s) set forth on the attached Notice To Comply With Requirements For Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence And/Or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures.

Applicant is given 3 MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter within which to comply with the sequence rules, 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821(g).

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Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant extend the period for reply beyond the SIX MONTH statutory period. Direct the reply to the undersigned. Applicant is requested to return a copy of the attached Notice to Comply with the reply.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Fabian Jameison whose telephone number is (703) 305-0509. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. A message may be left on the Examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Supervisory Patent Examiner, Cecilia Tsang, may be reached at 703-308-0254.

Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Centre 1600 by facsimile. Papers should be sent via the PTO fax centre at 703-305-7401. The faxing of such papers must conform with the Notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989).

Fabian A. Jameison, Ph.D.

2000 110 199

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 1654

February 10, 1999.

Supervisory Patent Examiner Technology Center 1600

NOTICE OF DRAFFPERSON'S PATRICULAR DRAWING REVIEW

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RAWINGS. 37 CPR 1.84(a): Acceptable bacegories of days for	
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Color drawing are not acceptable until petition is granted.	Fig.(s)
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Pencil and non black ink is not permitted. Fig(s)	Roman numbers. Fig.(s)
HOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b)	8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS, 37 CFR 1.84(i)
Photographs are not acceptable until petition is granted,	Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when
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	Corrections not made from PTO-948 dated
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-	Surface shading shown not appropriate. Fig.(s)
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- my		Garcia-Echeverria et al., "One The Use Of Hydrophobic Probes In The Chromatographic Purification Of Solid-Phase-Synthesized Peptides," J. Chem. Soc., Chem Commun., 779-780 (1995)							
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